

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-10 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /153 W
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R 310913Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6639
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, JA
SUBJECT: JAPAN-SOVIET FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) TOKYO 3648 (B) TOKYO 04917

1. DURING SHORT VISIT TO TOKYO FROM MOSCOW, MATSUURA SENIOR JAPAN FISHERY AGENCY OFFICIAL AT JAPAN-SOVIET FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS HAS CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS HAVE AGREED TO GIVE JAPAN SALMON QUOTA OUTSIDE SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE THIS YEAR. ALSO CONFIRMED WAS REPORT IN REF B THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT IN THREE WORKING GROUPS, NAMELY: A) DRAFTING OF FISHERY AGREEMENT. THIS WILL REPLACE EXISTING AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRES APRIL 29 AND WILL PROBABLY BE GOOD FOR FIVE YEARS, B) BILATERAL FISHERIES COOPERATION AND C) CONDITION OF SALMON STOCKS AND JAPANESE QUOTA OF SALMON FOR 1978.

2. MATSUURA WAS RELUCTANT TO FORECAST WHEN NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE COMPLETED BUT HOPES THAT BY END OF APRIL MAJOR
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POINTS WILL HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. HE WAS ALSO RELUCTANT TO FORECAST SIZE OF QUOTA JAPAN WILL GET; JAPAN HAS ASKED FOR 62,000 MT, AMOUNT ALLOTTED LAST YEAR.

3. UCHIMURA, FORMER VICE MINISTER OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY AND NOW ADVISOR TO THE MINISTER, WILL ACCOMPANY MATSUURA ON HIS RETURN TO MOSCOW 1 APRIL

AND WILL REMAIN UNTIL NEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLETED. THOUGH
PRESS REPORTS THAT AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY MINISTER
NAKAGAWA WILL VISIT MOSCOW EARLY IN APRIL TO TAKE PART
IN NEGOTIATIONS, WHEN AND IF HE WILL GO HAS NOT BEEN
DECIDED.

4. ACCORDING TO MATSUURA SOVIET SALMON TAKE IN 1977 WAS
140,000 MT ABOUT DOUBLE THE 1976 HARVEST AND LARGEST
SINCE 1957. TOTAL RUN WAS 250,000 MT ALSO HIGHEST
SINCE 1957. MATSUURA ATTRIBUTES THIS IN PART TO
PROHIBITION OF JAPANESE FISHERY IN SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE
AND REDUCTION OF JAPANESE QUOTA TO 62,000 MT IN 1977
FROM 80,000 MT IN 1976. MANSFIELD

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